

REMARKS

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims 11-19 in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21919-00014-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: January 5, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By C. Keith Montgomery

C. Keith Montgomery

Registration No.: 45,254

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800

Washington, DC 20036-3425

(202) 331-7111

(202) 293-6229 (Fax)

Attorney for Applicant